

PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 04329.2230

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Kenji HASHIMOTO

Application No.: 09/503,170

Filed: February 14, 2000

For: RESIN ENCAPSULATING

APPARATUS AND METHOD USED IN A MANUFACTURE OF A

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1732

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated November 29, 2001, the period for response to which extends through January 29, 2002, by petition and payment of the requisite fee filed herewith, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between:

Group I, claims 1-14, 16, 17, 19, and 20, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to an apparatus; and

Group II, claims 15 and 18, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to a method.

Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute the claims of Group I. In view of the Preliminary Amendment canceling claims 16, 17, 19, and 20, which is being filed concurrently herewith, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to examine claims 1-14 on the merits.

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT& DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202.408.4000 Fax 202.408.4400 www.finnegan.com Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 28, 2002

Richard V. Burgujian Ro 24,014

Reg. No. 31,744

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Examiner: A. Ortiz

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 16, 17, 19, and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

<u>REMARKS</u>

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant cancels claims 16, 17, 19, and 20.

Accordingly, claims 1-15 and 18 are currently pending in this application. This

Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with a response to the Restriction

Requirement dated November 29, 2001.

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT& DUNNER LLP

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